VEWS.

For Immediate Release



MARICOPA COUNTY
ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

2323 S. 35th Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85009 www. Pets.maricopa.gov

Date June 26, 2000 For more information, contact Julie Bank 602-506-3471, pager (602) 506-2739

MARICOPA COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES WARNS PET OWNERS TO PROTECT THEIR PETS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

STAFF HAS OBSERVED AN INCREASE OF DISEASE IN ANIMALS COMING INTO THE SHELTERS

(Phoenix) – Maricopa County Animal Control Services (MCACS) encourages pet owners to make sure their pets are up to date with their shots. "We have seen an increase of Parvo like symptoms in animals coming into county shelters", says Ed Boks, MCACS Executive Director. "We are monitoring our animals daily and we encourage pet owners to do the same with the pets they have at home."

Parvo is a highly contagious disease for animals and can remain in an environment for up to six months. "People need to take seriously the health care of their pets" says Dr. Bradley, MCACS staff veterinarian. "Visiting your veterinarian once a year, and including preventative inoculations will help protect your pet from these very resilient organisms."

To make it easy for the public to maintain their pet's health, MCACS offers shots seven days a week at all three of its locations for only \$6. No appointment is necessary.

Licensing your dog will also help keep him safe during the month of July. During July 4th, our shelters see an increase of lost animals that could be returned home to their owners immediately if they were only wearing a license tag. Licenses are available at all of our locations and at 88 veterinarians across the valley. Check Pets 911 (at 1-888-pets-911 or www.1888pets911.org) to find a location near you.

To protect your pet during July $\mathbf{4}^{\text{th}}$ remember the following:

- Keep an ID tag on your pet at all times
- Keep your pets inside, in a safe, stress free place
- Keep an eye out for open doors and gates during parties
- Don't overfeed your animals or feed them foods they are not used to

West Side Shelter 2323 S. 35th Avenue

East Side Shelter 2630 W. 8th Street Pet Adoption Center 5231 N. 35th Avenue

Page 2 of 2 fourth of july1.doc